

Message Text

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UNCLAS ATHENS 6377

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PFOR, CY, GR
SUBJ: KYPRIANOU STOPS BRIEFLY IN ATHENS

1. THE SPEAKER OF THE CYPRUS HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, SPYROS KYPRIANOU, STOPPED OVER IN ATHENS JULY 7-11 EN ROUTE BACK TO NICOSIA. HE CALLED ON PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS, PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK PARLIAMENT CONSTANTINE PAPACONSTANTINOU, FOREIGN MINISTER DIMITRI BITSIOS, OPPOSITION LEADER GEORGE MAVROS AND FORMER PRIME MINISTER PANAYIOTIS KANELLOPOULOS, DEBRIEFING THEM ON HIS VISIT TO THE U.S.

2. KYPRIANOU'S PUBLIC COMMENTARY WAS RELATIVELY SPARSE. DURING HIS ARRIVAL STATEMENT IN ATHENS, HE LABELLED HIS CONTACTS AND TALKS IN THE U.S. AS "USEFUL." HE ALSO GRANTED AN INTERVIEW TO COMMUNIST RIZOSPASTIS IN WHICH, RESPONDING TO QUESTIONS, HE:
-WELCOMED ALL INITIATIVES AIMED AT SOLVING THE CYPRUS QUESTION AS LONG AS THEY OCCUR WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE UN, ADDING THAT THE GOC WOULD CONSIDER ANY U.S. INITIATIVES FALLING WITHIN THE UN FRAMEWORK.
-STATED THAT DURING THE FORTHCOMING UNGA THE
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CYPRUS QUESTION WOULD BE DEALT WITH, AND THE GOC WILL SUPPORT THE IDEA OF AN INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE WHICH WILL BE INTRODUCED BY THE GREEK-CYPRIOTS OR BY A THIRD PARTY.
-SAID THAT THE POSITION OF THE USSR WITH REGARD TO CYPRUS WAS "EXTREMELY CONSTRUCTIVE."
-AGREED WITH THE NEED TO OPEN THE "CYPRUS FILE," BUT

ALLOWED AS TO HOW BOTH THE GOG AND GOC SHOULD AGREE ON THE TIMING.
-ACKNOWLEDGED HE HAD AN OUTSTANDING INVITATION TO VISIT
THE USSR WHICH HE MIGHT ACCEPT NEXT YEAR.

3. FINALLY, BEFORE HIS DEPARTURE HE TOLD THE ATHENS
CORRESPONDENT OF THE CYPRUS RADIO INSTITUTE THAT CYPRUS
RELIES ON THE ASSISTANCE OF GREECE, AND THAT THE LATTER'S
SUPPORT IS "ABSOLUTE AND MULTI-FACETED." HE ALSO COMMENTED
THAT BASED ON HIS FINDINGS IN THE US, THE NEW ADMINISTRATION'S
CYPRUS POLICY IS "STILL BEING SHAPED. THE ADMINISTRATION HAS
GIVEN PRIORITY TO THIS PROBLEM, AND WISHES TO SEE IT
SOLVED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE." HE CONCLUDED BY AFFIRMING THAT
PRIME MINISTER CARAMANLIS HAD CATEGORICALLY PLEDGED GREECE
WILL GIVE ALL POSSIBLE ASSISTANCE.
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